4-H Families,

Happy New year from all of us at the Wright County Extension office! We hope everyone had a great Christmas with family and friends. What better way to kick off 2019 than by making New Year’s resolutions and setting some goals! What do I want to accomplish? What is something new I would like to try? How can I challenge myself to become better? 4-H is one way where you can explore, travel, meet new friends, and try new things! The Extension office is always here to help answer your questions and provide you with information on many topics.

Remember a goal has 3 parts: Action, Result, Timetable.

If you have questions please make sure to ask.

Making the Best Better!

Jessica Norman

Photo: Wright County beef weigh in volunteer Travis Tate is using the retinal scanning machine to capture the beef animal’s retinal image.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

There may be times when we need to cancel program because of winter weather. If that happens we will make announcements using email, our website, and Facebook.

Jessica Norman

Wright County Extension & Outreach  County 4-H & Youth Coordinator
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**NEW MEMBER MEETING**

New 4-H members and parents are invited to new member meeting on Sunday, January 27th at the Extension Office at 4pm. Teen Council members will help explain what a 4-H year is like. They will talk about important deadlines, camps, workshop, fair, record keeping, and so much more. This is a great time to get questions answered and gain some understanding of what to expect this first year. Any 2nd or 3rd year members/parents want to attend all are welcome to join us.

**4-H FUN NIGHT**

Mark your Calendars for 4-H Fun Night Saturday, March 9, 2019, at the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows High School. The evening will be filled with: games, food, fun, friends and prizes. All families are asked to participate in the following ways: each club is assigned to bring pies, cakes, and/or bars. Your club is listed below. Parent committees are being planned to help with food stand, bingo, traffic control, tickets sales, and the raffle. Please watch for your letter in the near future. If there is an area you would like to help in, please call to volunteer. Last year royalty parents are asked to decorate the stage for coronation.

Cakes & Pies: All families are assigned to bring either a cake or pie. Please bring all pies and cakes in disposable containers and label the kind of pie!

The club assignments are as follows:

- **Pies for lunch stand**: Iowa Hawkeyes, Wright County P.I.G., & Wright Warriors
- **6 Pans of Bars**: Liberty Pathfinders
- **Cakes for Cake Walk**: Dayton Lake, Lake Clovers, and Liberty Pathfinders
- **Cake Walk at Fun Night**: Dayton Lake

*All clubs are asked to bring 25 chance jars again this year. Letters have been emailed to club leaders.

**Each club is asked to donate an item for the silent auction table letters have been emailed to club leaders.

***Let Jessica your club game booth

**IOWA 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

The Iowa 4-H Foundation has announced applications are available for the 4-H scholarship program with over 90 scholarship opportunities to be awarded valued at over $100,000. A complete list of scholarships, eligibility, helpful hints, instructions, and applications are available online [https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_for_4hers/scholarships/](https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_for_4hers/scholarships/). Online deadline is 11:59 PM, February 1, 2019. Questions, please contact Jessica Norman, 515-532-3453.
**BEEF VERIFICATION**

If you weighed in market beef, then you have one more step to complete! We have entered weigh in information into 4HOnline and you need to verify that all information is correct before February 1st. If something needs to be corrected contact Jessica as soon as possible!

**YOUTH BEEF CONFERENCE**

An educational program for Iowa youth involved in beef production will be held Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Ellsworth Community College Agriculture & Renewable Energy Center, Hwy 65 South, Iowa Falls. The youth program will run from 9:00a to 3:00p with registration beginning at 8:30am. A variety of interactive workshops and sessions are planned for youth 4th through 12th grades. Youth who register for this event qualifies as YQCA Certification for one year! A noon lunch will be provided, parents are welcome to stay and the cost is $10 per person. Please pre-register at the Extension Office by January 18th. For more information contact Jessica at the Extension office.

**2018 EQUINE EXTRAVAGANZA**

We all know that having horses requires more than just jumping on and riding! One way to help youth get motivated to learn more about the science behind horses is to encourage them to get involved in Equine Extravaganza. Save the dates for the 2019 Equine Extravaganza March 22-24. This is held at the Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls. Information from previous years is available now at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza. Please check back for 2019 registration information will be updated.

**CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (CWF)**

Registration is live for the 60th year of CWF held June 14-22, 2019. All teens who are currently in 9th-12th grades are eligible to register for the trip. Information for paper and online registration can be found on the Iowa 4-H CWF webpage (https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf).

**BABY SITTING CLINIC**

The Wright County Baby Sitting Clinic will be held February 2nd at the Extension office from 9am—3 pm. This workshop will be open to all youth in currently in 5th grade and up. Registration forms will be at school for the youth to pick up or at the Extension office or online at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/wright/page/projects. Space is limited. For more information please contact Jessica at the office.
**4-H PARTIES, ACTIVITIES, FUNDRAISING, VOLUNTEERING**

I know that many clubs are planning holiday parties, fun activities, fundraising and community volunteering and I commend you all for that! All I ask is that you keep in mind our risk management and insurance policies and keep Jessica informed on your plans so that the office knows where our 4-Hers are and what they are doing! I would also welcome any photos you would like to share of your club celebrations!

**WINTER CLUB ACTIVITIES**

Is your club planning to go skiing, snowboarding, sledding, ice skating or other winter recreation activity this winter? All winter recreation activities involve risks, and it is important for you to have information about your selected activity. The Permission Agreement and Release and Waiver of Liability must be obtained from the Extension Office, read carefully and signed by each participant and the parent or legal guardian. These forms must be returned to the Extension office before the planned activity. Call Jessica at 515-532-3453 or email jnorman@iastate.edu

**DuPont Pioneer SEED GRANT**

4-H clubs can apply for “seed money” from DuPont Pioneer in the form of grants up to $500. These grants are to be used by 4-H clubs for community improvement projects in their community. Applications are **due to the state office by January 30th, 2019**. For application materials, tips, and more info check out the DuPont Pioneer Seed Grant webpage [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/pioneergrants](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/pioneergrants).

**ANNUAL 4-H VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

Join 4-H leaders from across Wright County in an interactive, hands on training that will help volunteers explore how brain development and personal growth relate to their role as volunteers. By supporting youth to build resilience, we are providing opportunities for youth to develop belonging, mastery, and independence.

This year, leaders will define independence as it relates to 4-H and determine the role they play in fostering independence in all youth. In addition, leaders will leave with tools and resources to support their work with fostering independence in youth!

This training is part of the statewide leader training and will be held on Thursday, February 28th, from 6:00-8:30 pm at the Wright County ISU Extension and Outreach office. All 4-H Volunteers need to attend this training unless they took the New Volunteer Training 2018. There will be a light meal at the training.

A benefit of participating in the face-to-face volunteer training is the interaction and sharing with other volunteers. If you are not able to attend the training, contact the Extension office to learn more about participating through other training options.

Please register by contacting the Wright County Extension Office by Thursday, February 21st.
2019 AKSARBEN LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

If you intend on identifying and possibly exhibiting animals at Aksarben for 2019, please read on for IMPORTANT changes for this next year.

Aksarben is moving to a regional/national type of show, where their entry process will be similar to shows like the American Royal (Kansas City), National Western (Denver), or the North American International Livestock Exposition (Louisville). This means FAMILIES will be responsible for going to Aksarben’s website to order and purchase hair DNA envelopes for their animals. NO Aksarben animals will be weighed in, nominated, or retinal scanned at your local county extension office. The following types of animals will now need a hair DNA sample for Aksarben: Market Beef, Market Swine, Market Sheep, Market Goats. ALL DNA hair samples are due July 1 directly to the Aksarben office. Go to the Aksarben website for a full explanation of the process including a list of frequently asked questions: https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com/p/events/403

Specific Questions/Answers for Iowa 4-H animals: Retinal Images are ONLY required now for Iowa State Fair animals (market beef, all sheep, all meat goats), Aksarben animals only do NOT need to be identified in 4-H Online - only county fair and/or Iowa State Fair animals, If you want a market animal eligible for BOTH State Fair and Aksarben: ID the animal in 4-H Online (for county fair and State Fair eligibility), Collect retinal images (State Fair market animals), DNA punch tag (State Fair swine only), If also for Aksarben, go to Aksarben website to get a DNA envelope to obtain and submit hair sample, See the Aksarben website for contact information on questions for that show.

LIVESTOCK QUIZ BOWL
Livestock Quiz Bowl is set for April 13, 2019 at Iowa State University. This event is the qualifier for the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl held during Aksarben each fall. Youth in grades 4-12 may participate and the questions cover beef, goats, sheep and swine. For more information and study materials go to the quiz bowl webpage. https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/livestock-quiz-bowl

LIVESTOCK JUDGING COACHES CLINIC
The Department of Animal Science will be offering a clinic for adults who would like to learn more about how to coach a livestock judging team. The event will be held on April 20, 2019 at Iowa State University. Participants will receive hands-on instruction from the ISU livestock judging coach and team. More information will be available soon.
YQCA (YOUTH for the QUALITY and CARE of ANIMALS)

If you plan to show any of the following species at the County/State Fair, you must be YQCA certified: beef, dairy (goat or cow), meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, swine

Youth for the Quality and Care of Animals (YQCA) Program (no longer FSQA)

YQCA stands for Youth for the Quality and Care of Animals. The National Pork Board is transitioning to this program over from YPQA and FSQA. It is an online training offered nationally, but will still have in-person training. This training is a yearly certification and has a cost of $12 for the online version and $3 for the in-person training. The fee for either training will be collected online, when you select the training.

How do you become certificated?

- Attend the in-person training (see dates below)
- Complete the online training via 4HOnline [https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login](https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login)

The Youth for the Quality and Care of Animals (YCQA) program is a program taught only by certified ISU Extension staff. It focuses on three topics: Food Safety, Animal Well-Being, and Life Skills.

Wright County’s YQCA in-person trainings will be held: (MUST SIGN UP ONLINE)

**only way to sign up for these trainings is online at [https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login](https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login)**

Sign in with 4HOnline and use your family log-in

Saturday, February 9th 10:00am-12noon Training – all 4-H youth Extension Office

Thursday, April 11th 6:30pm-8:30pm Training – all 4-H youth Extension Office

Members attending an in-person training only need to attend one of the in-person trainings

Those wanting to do the online training may at their own.

**It is the intent that all Wright County 4-H’ers have their YQCA training completed by May 15th.**

To find out more about the YQCA program or any questions, please visit with Jessica at 515-532-3453.
January 5 Intermediate Council mtg. 10 am @ Extension Office
January 8 Clover Kids (older) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
January 8 4-H & Youth Committee mtg. 7pm
January 17 Clover Kids (younger) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
January 26 Youth Beef Conference
January 27 Teen Council mtg. 3pm @ Extension Office
January 27 New Member info session 4 pm @ Extension Office
February 1 State 4-H Recognition applications due by 11:59 pm online
February 2 Baby Sitting Clinic 9am-3pm @ Extension Office
February 9 YQCA in-person training @ Extension Office 10-12noon
February 12 Clover Kids (older) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
February 13 4-H Legislative Day w/ Extension Council @ capital
February 21 Clover Kids (younger) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
February 23 Intermediate Council mtg. 10-noon @ Extension Office
February 24 Teen Council mtg. 6:30 pm @ Extension Office
February 28 4-H Leader Annual Training @ Extension Office 6 pm
March 9 4-H Fun Night @ C-G-D High School
March 12 Clover Kids (older) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
March 21 Clover Kids (younger) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
March 22-24 Equine Extravaganza @ Ellsworth Community College
March 23 Intermediate Council mtg. 10-noon @ Extension Office
March 30 State 4-H Recognition interviews on ISU campus
April 9 Clover Kids (older) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
April 11 YQCA in-person training @ Extension Office 6:30-8:30pm
April 18 Clover Kids (younger) 5:30-6:30pm @ Extension Office
April 19 Office Closed—Holiday
April 27 Intermediate Council mtg. 10-noon @ Extension Office
April 29-May 3 Youth Environmental Agricultural Days
May 4 Sheep & Goat weigh in @ Eagle Grove fairgrounds
May 15 Animal Identification due through 4HOnline by 11:59 pm
May 27 Office Closed—Holiday
June 7 Wright County Fair Entries due
June 12-14 4-H Junior Camp
June 25-27 State 4-H Conference/Animal Science Round-Up Ames
July 1 State Fair entry due in 4HOnline/Fair Entry
July 4 Office Closed—Holiday
July 9-15 Wright County Fair (static judging is July 9)
August 8-18 Iowa State Fair